

Forms of property have changed, the methods of the production of wealth have been modified; the uplift in the working classes makes them more keenly alive to their rights and force. Family relations are modifying and throughout all the avenues of mental operations new combinations are being sought which demand intelligent observation in order to determine their ethical and moral status. To this steady modification of social aims and performance the science and practice of law has endeavored to respond, and the knowledge of the psychiatrist, in his field equally active, becomes more and more important in these newer social integrations.

The work before us represents an intelligent attempt to correlate the fields of law and medicine wherein they have mutual interests, namely, in the sphere of mental responsibility. In the opening lessons the position that law occupies with reference to crime is discussed, a full criticism of the various periods being included, beginning with the period when theological dogmas reigned supreme in determining guilt or innocence; then coming through the idealistic period to the scientific period of Lombroso, his followers and opponents.

In his second and third lectures the Constitution of the Personality is discussed; heredity, the world of sensations and clinical proofs are the subheads, illuminated by a rare analytical and practical faculty. In chapters four, five and six, the evolution of the personality is taken up and in four further chapters the functions of personality gone into. Later chapters discuss dislocation of the personality under the influence of poisons, of mental disorders, hypnotism, etc., while the final chapter concerns itself with dispersion and regression of the personality, with full considerations of the duties of magistrates and physicians, and the subject of attenuated responsibility.

The whole mode of discussion must be read to be appreciated, but it seems to be the most rational and considerate discussion which has come before us.

JELLIFFE.

DIE PROGRESSIVE ALLGEMEINE PARALYSE. Zweite Auflage, Auf Grund der Darstellung von Weiland Professor Dr. R. v. Krafft-Ebing. Neubearbeitet von Professor H. Obersteiner. Alfred Hoelder. Wien und Leipzig, 1908. M. 5.20.

It is highly gratifying to see Professor Obersteiner's revision of Krafft-Ebing book "Die Progressive Allgemeine Paralyse." The entire book has been rewritten, new subject matter added, and its scope much widened. The book, which formerly consisted of 104 pages, is now increased to 194 pages. The whole subject of paresis is exhaustively treated, and is presented in the light of modern neuropsychic researches. The author considers paresis originating mainly from a leutic foundation in a predisposed individual. He puts his views in the following forcible language: "The contents of the cerebro-spinal fluid show the great significance of lues in the etiology of paresis; not only the nearly constant presence of lymphocytosis speaks for this view, but the recent investigations of Wasserman and Plaut make the presence of syphilitic antibodies very probable, although in a great number of these patients other evidences of leutic infection have been wanting."

Again the *rationale* of the modern method of treating paresis lies in the prophylaxis which can be effected by preventing syphilitic infection.

Paresis in the juvenile and senile periods, in women, and Lissauer's

form, is thoughtfully considered. He lays great stress on the cytological examination and extols its diagnostic value. "A negative finding by repeated punctures speaks, at all events, against paresis."

He recognizes eight forms of the disease: (1) Demented form; (2) manic form; (3) expansive form; (4) depressive form; (5) ascending (tabo-paresis) and descending form; (6) circular form; (7) atypical form; (8) acute galloping form.

The chapter on pathology and pathogenesis is brought up-to-date in every respect. Considering the immense wealth of material utilized in his treatise, the clear presentation of facts, and the exhaustive bibliography of the literature (549 references) one feels that such a volume becomes almost indispensable to every student of neurology and psychiatry. It is lamentable that the author did not take the trouble to index it, but this surely will be remedied in the next edition. It may be hoped that this important book will soon be translated into English, for, beyond doubt, there is no treatise in Anglo-Saxon which can replace that of Professor Obersteiner's.

M. J. KARPAS (Ward's Island, N. Y.).

BIER'S HYPEREMIC TREATMENT IN SURGERY, MEDICINE, AND THE SPECIALTIES: A Manual of its Practical Application. By Willy Meyer, M.D., and Professor Dr. Victor Schmieden, Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company.

Although Bier's treatment by "Stauungs-Hyperæmie" was first published by him in Germany, about fifteen years ago, it has not attracted general attention in this country until recently. Last year Dr. Schmieden read a paper at Washington on "The treatment of bone and joint tuberculosis by hyperæmia," before the National Association for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis. He found then a comparative lack of familiarity with Bier's methods among our surgeons, and determined upon the writing of the present manual, with Dr. Meyer (who has been their ardent supporter for some years), in order to disseminate the new teachings. The book contains brief yet fair and comprehensive descriptions of claimed advantages of the hyperæmic treatment, the methods of inducing hyperæmia, and its application in various surgical and medical diseases. It comprises experiences gathered at Bier's own clinic and experiences in this country. The aim of the treatment is to "increase the beneficent inflammatory hyperæmia resulting from the fight of the living body against invasion." The first principle underlying it is that "the blood must continue to circulate, there must never be a stasis of blood." Means formerly employed to subdue an inflammation are discarded. Some of our fondly cherished ideas respecting inflammation, to conform to the theory, must be abandoned. But the authors claim to prove their case and find wide usefulness and many advantages for the Bier methods. For instance, their enthusiasm has led them to employ and highly recommend the methods in the several specialties, even in psychiatry. The facts set forth, however, are rather meager, except in the treatment of surgical conditions. The book is attractively gotten up and the illustrations helpful. Without advocating the wide use of the principles laid down, we recommend the book to those who desire a fairly comprehensive knowledge of the subject.

ATWOOD (New York).